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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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For Immediate Release

July 19, 2007

\$41.7 Million in Homeland Security Grants Awarded to Indiana

Indianapolis, IN (July 19, 2007) – Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Executive Director J Eric Dietz, today announced The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) awarded \$41.7 million to Indiana through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) and the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant program. Indiana realized an 11% increase in the overall HSGP allocation when many states received level or reduced funding. This includes a 43% increase in the allocation for the Indianapolis Urban Area.

"This is very good news," said Dietz. "We didn't get everything we asked for, but we got more than last year." Dietz said he would have recommendations on how to spend the money after consulting with others in the state.

The HSGP grants will enhance the ability of states, territories, and urban areas to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks and other disasters. The PSIC grant program is intended to enhance public safety agencies' interoperable communications capabilities and must be used to buy equipment, deploy communications systems, or train for use on communications systems that are capable of operating within the 700 MHz spectrum.

Both grants were awarded using a complex risk methodology which considers a variety of factors, including intelligence assessments, population size and density, economic impacts, proximity to critical infrastructure, and other factors critical to national security such as proximity to international borders. Additionally, the HSGP award also involved approximately 150 state and local homeland security officials reviewing HSGP investment justifications to assess the effectiveness of proposed investments in addressing identified homeland security needs. Indiana's application scored in the 71st percentile of all 56 states and territories evaluated which included bonus points for partnering with other states on collaborative projects.

Though both awards were made to the State of Indiana, there is a required 80% pass-through to local governments to ensure the funds and projects are getting to the local first response community. Indiana's funding priorities for this award include the advancement of strategic and operational planning, training and exercise, intelligence fusion and critical infrastructure hardening.

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Final awards include:

- **Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI): \$7.7 million**
The FY 2007 UASI provides funding to the Indianapolis Urban Area to support the unique planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas. UASI funds are awarded based on an analysis of risk and the effectiveness of proposed investments to support state and local personnel performing counterterrorism field operations, which provide critical assistance to such activities as intelligence gathering, information sharing, and surveillance. Key funding initiatives included first responder training and exercise, intelligence gathering and information sharing and regionalization of emergency operations.
- **State Homeland Security Program (SHSP): \$8.68 million**
The FY 2007 SHSP award provides funding states and territories to support the implementation of State Homeland Security Strategies and build capabilities at the state and local levels through planning, equipment, training, and exercises. Allocations are determined based on analysis of relative risk and the effectiveness of proposed investments. Key funding initiatives including operational and strategic planning, first responder training and exercise, implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and critical infrastructure hardening.
- **Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP): \$6.2 million**
The FY 2007 LETPP award provides funding to states and territories to provide resources to law enforcement and public safety departments to support critical terrorism prevention activities, including establishing and enhancing intelligence fusion centers. Allocations are determined based on analysis of relative risk and the effectiveness of proposed investments. Key funding initiatives include advancement of the Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center (IIFC), expansion of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and development of a Common Operating Picture (COP).
- **Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS): \$516,290**
Indianapolis and Ft. Wayne, Indiana's two MMRS jurisdictions, will receive \$258,145 to establish and sustain local capabilities to respond to all-hazards mass casualty incidents, including terrorism, epidemic disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and large-scale hazardous materials incidents.
- **Citizen Corps Program: \$291,207**
The FY 2007 Citizen Corps Program provides funding to states and territories to enhance citizen and community involvement in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery. States and territories receive a minimum allocation, with remaining funds distributed on a population-share basis.
- **Public Safety Interoperable Communications: \$18.3 million**
The PSIC grant program is intended to enhance public safety agencies' interoperable communications capabilities. Funds must be used to buy equipment, deploy communications systems, or train for use on communications systems that are capable of operating within the 700 MHz spectrum.

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